

# CITY PAGES

## RAISE YOUR HAMM'S

AS MINNESOTA  
CRAFT BEER  
BOOMS,  
THE HUMBLE  
"BEER REFRESHING"  
IS HAVING  
A RESURGENCE  
OF ITS OWN.





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PARADE WOULD IT BE?:** A quiet parade

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# CITY PAGES

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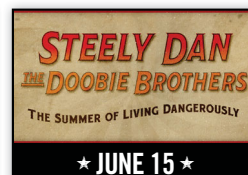
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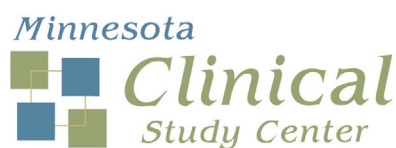


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## THE SHORTLIST



KIRSTIN HARSMA

## THE STAT SHEET

**239**

Number of U.S. school shootings since an attack on Sandy Hook Elementary killed 20 first-graders in 2012.

**\$1.06 billion**

Forbes' valuation of the Minnesota Timberwolves. The team was purchased by Glen Taylor for \$88 million back in 1994.

**\$37,000**

Amount North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum was forced to repay after enjoying a luxury Super Bowl weekend courtesy of Xcel Energy, North Dakota's largest utility.

**\$613 million**

Fine levied against U.S. Bank last week for failing to monitor money laundering.

**"I'm a conservative Republican and I can't argue with much here. Pawlenty just needs to go away."**

Reader Tracy Eberly responds to "Tim Pawlenty's triumphant return from pimping for Wall Street," at citypages.com.

## MEN IN RETROGRADE

**IT'S ALWAYS BEEN** a myth that more guns equal more safety. Research indicates that those who live in households with firearms are twice as likely to be murdered as those who live in homes without.

Which is why Congress banned federal funding for gun research back in the 1990s. When you fear what the facts might reveal, you already know you're on the wrong side.

The problem is that hobbyists and men afraid of the world prefer to see children die than be the least bit inconvenienced. Perhaps Congress should research the state of the American male, who appears to have lost his heart, his honor, and his testicles.

## POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

**TIME-TRAVELING GUY** 'Noah' from year 2030 wears Gophers shirt [Video]

Pepitos, Parkway Theater building purchased; **EL BURRITO MERCADO** taking over restaurant space

20 Twin Cities **MUSIC VENUES** ranked best to worst

**VESCIO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT** closing; Dinkytown becomes even more unrecognizable

Teachers:  
**ST. PAUL SCHOOLS** are violating federal law with special-needs kids



# SCRUTINY AT THE U

Coffman Union was named for a visionary who was also a huge racist

**L**otus Coffman had big plans for the University of Minnesota.

The school grew tremendously during the 18 years Coffman presided over it. New buildings included Northrop Auditorium and Walter Library.

Coffman also called for a student union, which would serve as “the center of social life.” His wish would come true, though he would not live to see it: Coffman died in 1938 at age 63. When the student union was completed in 1940, it was named for the visionary president.

Other aspects of Coffman’s vision have not stood the test of time. The school he led was rigidly segregated, with black students barred from most campus housing. Blacks and whites had “never lived together nor have they ever sought to live together,” Coffman once wrote, approvingly.

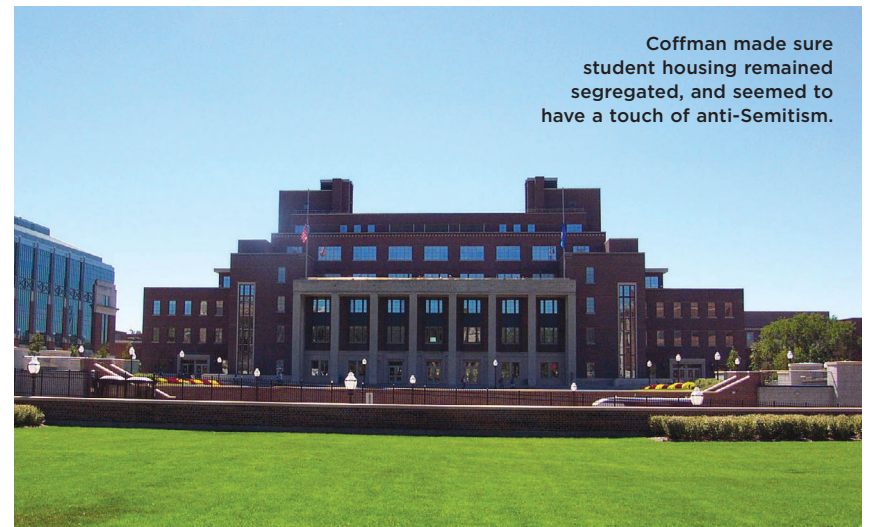
Coffman also monitored the student body for “radicals”—a term that at times

seemed interchangeable with “Jews”—and reported some to J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI.

This ugly chapter in history was explored in a recent exhibit on campus, a timely unearthing that coincided with a nationwide movement to take down statues of Confederate leaders. Minneapolis already renamed—or, technically, un-renamed—its biggest lake. Is Coffman Memorial Union next?

The question has been put to a new committee, assigned to craft “appropriate modern responses to historical issues” at the U. That includes the names of more than 1,000 buildings and statues.

The committee will hold a series of public forums in the coming weeks to take public feedback, some of which has already arrived: More than 1,200 people have signed an online petition calling for Coffman to be renamed. Supporters include state Rep. Ilhan Omar (DFL-Minneapolis),



GEPHART, WIKIPEDIA

Coffman made sure student housing remained segregated, and seemed to have a touch of anti-Semitism.

who represents the campus.

“Coffman deliberately excluded minority students from their full rights as university students,” the petition prompt reads. “As Coffman is home to many of the cultural groups, housed on the second floor, it is antithetical to the university’s stated values and commitment to inclusion to bear Coffman’s name on the building.”

U President Eric Kaler declined comment for this story. A school spokesperson would only reply with a pro forma statement, which reads in part: “We look forward to hearing updates from the committee on their work later this semester. We will continue to involve members of the university community in these important discussions.” —MIKE MULLEN

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# [Insert Next Mass Shooting]

In the NRA's America, gun control advocates defend against bad ideas

On Thursday, a former Minnesota Senate staffer got a phone call. The woman on the line was from the National Rifle Association.

What, the caller asked, would be the best way to stop "someone with a mental illness" from perpetrating a shooting like the one in Parkland, Florida, the day before?

The ex-staffer's answer was unequivocal. We should ban AR-15 rifles, like the one Nickolas Cruz used to kill 14 teenagers and three adults.

The woman pivoted clumsily. What would really keep people safe is the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act, she said. It would let any resident permitted to carry a gun in one state legally carry in any other.

The bill is awaiting action in the U.S. Senate. Would the man like to donate to the NRA to get it passed?

No, he would not. Not even for a free duffel bag signed by Wayne LaPierre.

This story was relayed by Sen. Scott Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis), who saw the NRA's fundraising as "opportunistic and amoral." He left out "victorious."

How else should you describe an outfit that steamrolls over the unburied bodies of teens and teachers to lobby for easier access to guns? The NRA sets the agenda, always gets its way, and sees no need to pause, not even for a moment of silence.

Yet the group's slightly more vulnerable yes-men wisely took the week off. They include Congressman Jason Lewis

(R-Woodbury), who represents a suburban district that stretches southeast of the Twin Cities. Lewis declined to comment for this story, saying only that the Parkland shooting was an "absolute tragedy."

Back in December, he was whistling right along with the NRA's tune. The Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act would guarantee the "right to be safe," even when crossing state lines, Lewis said. "You shouldn't have to turn around every time you reach the bridge to Wisconsin."

He has it backward. Minnesotans with a permit to carry can walk right into Wisconsin; it's Wisconsinites whose permits aren't honored here. Minnesota doesn't recognize concealed carry permits from 21 states with lax gun laws, nor from a dozen more where no permit is even required.

Ramsey County Attorney John Choi and Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman oppose the reciprocity bill. Freeman says Minnesota has a "pretty good" permit-to-carry law, requiring registration and safety training. It also prohibits violent criminals, the "mentally ill and dangerous," stalkers, and "nonresident aliens" from getting one.

Freeman's "disappointed," after more than two decades in public safety, to see how the conversation has shifted. A generation ago, it was possible to ban certain weapons with no other purpose than mass murder. Now advocates are reduced to fighting efforts to put more guns on the street, and fighting the notion that this makes anyone safer—

including civilians interacting with police.

"It is fair to say law-abiding people, including police officers, are much more concerned about their safety today because of the proliferation of guns," he says. "Anyone who suggests we're safer if more people carry guns is nuts."

The statistics back him up, of course, but the gun debate stopped turning on facts long ago. Though it takes only two years for U.S. gun deaths to surpass the entire American death toll of Vietnam, the subject remains our second worst-funded research topic when it comes to fatalities—behind only falls, which is just as well, because most modern conservatives seem more open to overturning the law of gravity.

The day after the Florida shooting, Erin Murphy, a DFL state rep running for governor, announced plans to bring a series of gun control bills this legislative session: banning AR-15 rifle sales, enhancing background checks, empowering local law enforcement to intervene when a gun owner or prospective buyer is deemed a threat to the public.

None has any chance of passing. Not with Republicans in control of the legislature. Murphy and others will likely spend the session trying to block increased rights for gun owners, like permit-less carry and the power to murder an unarmed burglar, provided you do so in "good faith."

Says Murphy: "I expect we will take some sort of vote on an issue that deals with expanding gun owners' rights, as we



Mike Mullen

do in most election cycles. It is the nature of the body."

In Washington, expect Congress to wait a respectful period of time before revisiting another expansion of gun rights. But not too long. They don't want to be caught passing one when the next mass shooting happens. Or the one after that. Or the many, many more to follow.

In the meantime, Jason Lewis will be left to "make sense" of the "tragedy," as he did last week. Or he will be offering "thoughts and prayers," as he did after a gunman killed 58 people and wounded 500 in Las Vegas last year.

On Friday, he'll be hosting a joint talk with John Lott, author of such books as *More Guns, Less Crime*, and *The War on Guns: Arming Yourself Against Gun Control Lies*. Proceeds from the \$50 tickets go to the local Republican Party.

The talk is to be called "How Gun Control Hurts the Most Vulnerable." If only those Florida teens could've lived to see it.

[mmullen@citypages.com](mailto:mmullen@citypages.com)

Follow Mike on Twitter: @mikemullen\_

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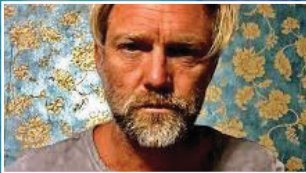
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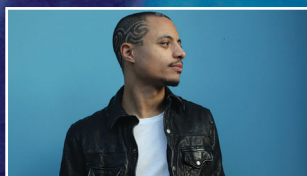
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As Minnesota craft beer booms, the humble “beer refreshing” is having a resurgence of its own.

BY EMILY CASSEL

**E**rik Coglianese has a lot of fond Hamm’s-related memories—you’re bound to, when you start drinking it in college and polish off a keg of it at your wedding.

But his favorite involves a golf trip to northern Wisconsin, where he and his friends had smuggled in a few cans of the St. Paul-born budget beer—a beer that (not unsurprisingly) wasn’t offered among the course’s concessions.

Coglianese’s group was one of maybe three out that day. It quickly became clear who was responsible for all the empties filling the trash, and management started shooting some glares their way. So when they returned to hit the links again later that weekend, they were a known entity to the owner, a crone-like character who muttered, upon seeing them: “Oh, it’s the Hamm’s boys.”

“We just loved it,” Coglianese says, cracking himself up even though this has to be his hundredth retelling of the tale. “We made shirts. We have shirts with the Hamm’s bear on them, and underneath it says, ‘Hamm’s Boys.’ We wear those things around like a badge of honor.”

Maybe guys killing an afternoon at the country club—guys like Coglianese, a 30-year-old who works in real estate—don’t sound to you like the stereotypical Hamm’s drinkers. For the majority of its 150-year existence, the beer has been most commonly associated with two groups of people: dads and granddads. (A third might be teenagers surreptitiously drinking in basements.) “What do you do with a brand like Hamm’s?” the Chicago Tribune asked MillerCoors CEO Gavin Hattersley in 2016 of the long-underperforming brand his company purchased in 1999. “It seems like such an old-guy beer.”

At the time, Hattersley issued a pretty perfunctory response about how millennials are suckers for old heritage brands and how he was excited about updates to the packaging. He didn’t know then what we know now—that taking Hamm’s national in 2017 would lead to explosive sales, making it one of MillerCoors’ strongest labels. That the beer from the land of sky blue waters would finish out 2017 as the eighth-fastest-growing brand in



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EMILY UTNE

the country. And that its success would continue well into 2018—so far, Miller-Coors associate brand manager Amber Smith says they’ve seen 96 percent year-to-date growth, bumping Hamm’s into the number-four spot.

Smith largely attributes that explosive popularity to the sense of nostalgia surrounding Hamm’s. It practically markets itself—there’s the “beer refreshing” jingle that soundtracked those old-timey cartoon commercials from the ’50s and ’60s, and, of course, it has that lovable, potbellied bear mascot.

Ask the millennials who love it, and they’ll tell you it’s not just nostalgia. “It’s a simple beer, a mowing-the-lawn beer, a just-take-it-easy beer.” (To clarify, “It’s not a shit beer, it’s a simple beer. There’s shit beer out there.”)

“It’s all about the hometown flavor and hometown artwork. Even if it got bought out it still originated here, so that’s cool,” says bassist Fletcher Barnhill of the Minneapolis band IN // VIA.

“The thing I like about Hamm’s is it’s unsuspecting,” adds Dave Saladin. “It’s a simple beer, a mowing-the-lawn beer, a just-take-it-easy beer.” (To clarify, “It’s not a shit beer, it’s a simple beer. There’s shit beer out there.”)

Saladin is the GM at Taco Cat, Midtown Global Market’s bike-delivery taco joint. He’s also a cyclist and a musician. It’s a trifecta that suggests Pabst Blue Ribbon should be his brew of choice—and for

Dan Ryan, Marissa Bonnie, and Fletcher Barnhill enjoy drinking Hamm’s.

most of the cycling community, he’ll tell you, it still is.

But on this afternoon, we’ve plunked ourselves into a booth at the new-ish Blue Door Pub in Uptown, which he’s picked because it has Hamm’s on tap. “Hamm’s on tap tastes great. I used to go to Blue Door out in St. Paul—any tap, two bucks—and I’m like, ‘Hamm’s.’ And they’re like... ‘Really?’”

Really. And he’s definitely not the only one. When Bull’s Horn opened in the old Sunrise Inn space last October, general manager Justin Peterson decided to put Hamm’s tallboys on the drink list. It turned out to be a good call: “It is our most popular bottle or can that we sell. It outpaces everything else almost two to one.” It’s not just that Bull’s Horn is a reborn dive, either, a place where ordering a Hamm’s is part and parcel to the experience. Peterson’s also the GM over at Sandcastle, and bargain beer-wise, the seasonal Lake Nokomis restaurant has traditionally sold PBR. Last season, sensing that there was a Hamm’s resurgence happening, he added it to the menu just to see how the two would do against each other. They went ounce for ounce, selling at almost the same rate.

“I think that for sure, Hamm’s is starting to replace that whole PBR thing from the

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EMILY UTNE

last decade,” Peterson says. He reasons that it’s becoming the go-to adjunct lager thanks to a winning combination of nostalgia, taste, and price, and he notes that other tallboys are edging into a market share that PBR had almost exclusively—you tend to see more of Grain Belt’s Big Friendlies now, for example. “I think that, too, PBR was getting a little played-out.”

You certainly could compare Hamm’s success to the semi-recent hipster reclamation of PBR, which became a favorite of the flannel set in the mid-2000s. Like the pride of St. Paul, it was a traditionally blue-collar, working-class beer, and it spent decades in decline before suddenly surging back.

Peterson might be right, though; more and more, it’s Hamm’s you’ll see at art shows and fashion events around town. At Honeycomb, the exceedingly stylish south Minneapolis salon where Saladin gets his hair cut, you’re handed a Hamm’s if you prefer beer to coffee or water. And the decidedly not-divey Nightingale at 25th Street and Lyndale Avenue South has for years offered what must be one of the best burger-and-a-beer deals in town—order a burger during happy hour, and you can add a can of Hamm’s for just a buck.

The difference here is that at least a little of that love for Pabst always seemed somehow... ironic? Detached? Nursing the ribbon-emblazoned tallboys at a basement show or backyard barbecue was a certain kind of cultural signifier; it said that you got it, that you were with it, every bit as much as your skinny jeans and Sonic Youth shirt did.

The love for Hamm’s just feels a little more genuine. At Bull’s Horn, where barstools and booths fill with a generation-spanning clientele, you’re as likely to find the gold-and-blue bombers clutched in the hands of Askov Finlayson-clad twentysomethings as you are wizened, seven-


**It’s not on the menu, but you can always grab a Hamm’s-tini at Muddy Waters.**

tysomething truck drivers—and they’re not a segment of the population known for enjoying things ironically. Plus, you’d be hard-pressed to find another budget beer with a committed fan club, which Hamm’s has. The network of memorabilia collectors has close to 300 members, many of whom meet up at the group’s annual trade shows.

But is Peterson’s prediction on point? Is it only a matter of time before Hamm’s unseats PBR as the cheap lager of choice? Before Urban Outfitters debuts a Land of Sky Blue Waters line?

Maybe! Hamm’s Boy Erik Coglianese puts it in real estate terms. “You can always kind of see where the next big housing boom is gonna go, depending on where the hipsters go. It goes hipster, and then it starts getting built up, and then it goes yuppie. I’m sure the same thing’s gonna happen here with Hamm’s. The hipsters jumped on board, and then it’s gonna gain mass popularity and go through a lot of different segments of America.”

Back at Blue Door, Saladin isn’t so sure. When he goes out in his Lyn-Lake neighborhood, Pabst is still the ubiquitous brew. It’s the one everyone orders with their shot-and-a-can deal. And he was at Matt’s Bar the other day, where you’ll see Bud, Miller, Michelob, and Grain Belt listed under domestic beers and won’t find Hamm’s, even though Matt’s is exactly the kind of dive that seems like it should have it.

“But I had a PBR at Matt’s, and I was like, why was I ever drinking this?” he says. “So maybe they’re doing it right. It’s coming back. Every hipster on every corner is gonna be drinking a Hamm’s. And I’m gonna be the curmudgeon who’s like, ‘Fuck you. You’re not even tasting it.’” 



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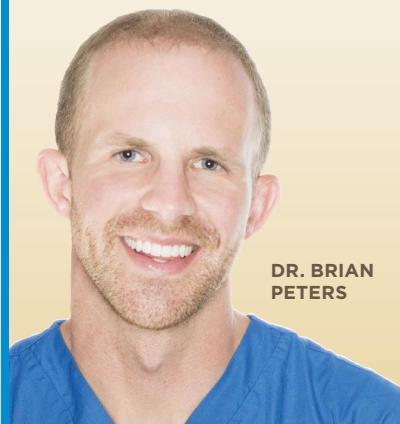
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## DRINK

### AFTER BEING CALLED THE COLDPLAY OF BEERS, SUMMIT RELEASES THE LITERAL COLDPLAY OF BEERS

When Summit announced the first-ever layoffs in its 30-year run this December, we published a reaction from reader Sue Bush that summed up the situation thusly: Summit is struggling because they're the Coldplay of Minnesota beers.

Did she mean "a wildly popular fan favorite capable of selling out arenas and landing its frontman a hot Hollywood wife?" She did not.

"For too long they were the only option in St. Paul and now that is far from the case," she wrote. "Their brews are obvious, middling, and with very little character or personality. They are the Coldplay of Minnesota craft breweries: aggressively mediocre."

"They need to step it up or they won't be around long," she continued. "Look at what Fair State, Indeed, and Dangerous Man are doing!"

Sue does not pull any punches.

But the good folks over at Summit have taken the criticism in stride, responding by brewing a literal Coldplay beer: Death and All His Friends, a barrel-aged stout they're releasing on Thursday, Feb. 22. The taproom exclusive (ABV: 9.9%, IBU: 40) takes its name from the closing track of the British rock band's 2008 record *Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends*.

This new brew does find the St. Paul stalwarts doing a bit of envelope-pushing: Head brewer Damian McConn worked "with new and experimental ingredients," according to a release from Summit, using their small pilot system before aging DAAHF in Jamaican rum barrels for 90 days.

So, what does the actual Coldplay of beers taste like?

"With a complex malt bill, hops from the U.K., and our house ale yeast all contributing to Death and All His Friends, you might pick up on flavors and aromas of chocolate, leather, tobacco, and smoke, plus a dark roasty character and a nice, dry finish like the piano melody in a Coldplay song," the Summit team says. (Also expect rum, vanilla, and a touch of raisin from those barrels.)

Death and All His Friends (the beer) will be available Thursday through Saturday in the Summit beer hall. *Death and All His Friends* (the record) was a Best Rock album Grammy winner (and Best Album nominee) that was also 2008's best-selling full-length. It was, Wikipedia tells us, both a critical and commercial success.

Summit may be on to something here—maybe it's not the worst thing to be your industry's Coldplay after all. —EMILY CASSEL

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# A LIST

**FRIDAY** Can Can goes Gaga with Flip Phone **P. 17**

**SATURDAY** The Beer Dabbler heads to the Fairgrounds **P. 20**

**TUESDAY** Ballet at the Northrop **P. 21**

## WEDNESDAY 2.21

### THEATER

#### TONYA AND NANCY: THE OPERA

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

It's easy to get caught up in figure-skating fever these days thanks to the glamour of the 2018 Olympics and the darkly fantastic *I, Tonya* bringing the notorious '90s scandal back into the spotlight. But if you still haven't had enough ice drama, never fear: *Tonya and Nancy: The Opera* is back. The piece follows the story that shocked the figure-skating world: Top athlete Nancy Kerrigan was attacked with a collapsible baton, and it turned out that Tonya Harding's then-husband Jeff Gillooly (and possibly Harding herself?) hired the hitman. Created in 2006 by composer Abigail Al-Doory Cross and writer Elizabeth Searle for the American Repertory Theatre, *Tonya and Nancy* captures all the drama in true operatic style. Mixed Precipitation first produced the piece in 2010, and revisited it for the 2014 Olympics. This time, performances will be supplemented by a viewing of the Pyeongchang games, along with commentary by skating competitors, coaches, and comedians. For tickets, go to [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com). 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Blackstack Brewing (755 Prior Ave. N., St. Paul; 612-369-2932) and 10 p.m. Saturday at Bryant-Lake Bowl (810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis; 612-825-3737). \$10. **Through Saturday —SHEILA REGAN**

### COMEDY

#### DREW MICHAEL

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Now based in New York City, comedian Drew Michael started doing standup in his hometown of Chicago. Once known for its sketch and improv scene, the Windy City is now drawing comics from all over the country. "It has the best of both worlds," he explains. "You get the big-city opportunities without the New York or L.A. pressure of the industry watching you and wondering



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ALICE BLANGERO

about what everyone else is doing. That kind of stress can be detrimental to experimentation and creativity." Growing up, he was never one to make people laugh. "I wasn't the life of the party, or the class clown," he says. "Comedy to me was always a way of looking at things more so than an ability to get along with people." Michael doesn't necessarily think of himself as hilarious, but his way of interpreting things is. "I can look at things and explain them and articulate them in a way that is funny." 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday —BRAD RICHASON**

## THURSDAY 2.22

### COMEDY

#### JEFF DYE

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

"I'm being pulled in all different directions," says comedian, actor, and

TV host Jeff Dye when we reached him on his cell phone at LAX. "I'm not used to this level of calendar." Indeed, Dye is all over TV, including NBC's *Better Late than Never*, while still trying to steadily do standup. "I was a standup comedian first," he notes. "That was my first love, my true love. I didn't even know I wanted to do TV stuff, but then I got on *Last Comic Standing* and they were like, 'Have you ever thought about doing TV?' I said, 'No, I just want to do comedy.'" Then they told him how much he could make. He also realized he'd get a lot more exposure doing TV. "So, I said, 'I'll do TV!'" He's been balancing both ever since. "I've always been the class clown, the goofball," he says. However, that was never his intention. "I'm a simple guy and I had some learning disabilities when I was a kid. In class, I would say things that were serious in my head but everyone laughed. The teacher would say, 'Jeff, that's not funny.' He

soon realized that the way he thought wasn't the way other people thought, and that they found it funny. "I decided to capitalize on that." 16+. 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16-\$23. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday —P.F. WILSON**

### ART/MUSEUM

#### WINTER AT THE WALKER

WALKER ART CENTER

This season, the Walker Art Center has embraced the cold by hosting its free Thursday nights both indoors and outside. In addition to the galleries being open to explore, moonlight snowshoe tours at 6 and 7:30 p.m. will take guests through the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. Bring your own shoes, or borrow a pair for free. If you need to warm up, take a peek inside the Little Box Sauna, which will be at the museum through March 3 (you





WALKER ART CENTER

can sign up for a proper session at [littleboxsauna.com](http://littleboxsauna.com), tickets are \$20). At this week's event, Alyssa Baguss and Jenny Undis of Lunlux will also share their brightly colored maps that track weather patterns and how they have changed over recent years. 5 to 9 p.m. Free. 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

## FRIDAY 2.23

### THEATER INDECENT

GUTHRIE THEATER

In the world of theater, a tension has always existed between artistic vision and commercial prospects. Such a situation is explored in Paula Vogel's *Indecent*, a dramatic reenactment of the controversy that arose from the Broadway premiere of Sholem Asch's culturally defiant *God of Vengeance*. Concerning a Jewish brothel owner whose aspirations are dashed when his daughter falls in love with a prostitute, *God of Vengeance* served as a provocative exploration of morality and faith. *Indecent* recounts the fascinating history of the work, from its conception through its contentious reception, including the excisions made to placate offended sensibilities. Vogel depicts the gripping history of this influential work as an emblem of the expressive yearning that drives all great art. Under the direction of Wendy C. Goldberg, this production boasts an ensemble of seven actors and three musicians juggling over 40 roles. The show is previews through February 22, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays; 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays in March; 7 p.m. Sundays in February. \$29-\$77; \$15 previews. 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224.

Through March 24 —BRAD RICHASON

### PARTY

#### GAGA CARNIVAL

CAN CAN WONDERLAND

A sprawling warehouse space filled with oddities and delights, Can Can Wonderland seems like it was made for weird, late-night parties. This week, Flip Phone will test this out with an epic Lady Gaga-themed happening. There will be a dance floor blasting tunes from all eras of the icon's music career, from "Just Dance" to "Joanne." There will also be drag from the likes of *RuPaul's Drag Race* alumni Max and Phi Phi O'Hara, who was last seen at First Avenue raising funds to aid Puerto Rico. After a few Gaga-inspired cocktails, head to the karaoke stage to sing your heart out. The mini-golf courses and arcade games will also be open (though you need to pay to play them). Come in your Gaga-influenced best; at the stroke of midnight there will be a costume contest. Tickets and more info can be found at [www.ticketfly.com](http://www.ticketfly.com). 18+. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. \$10/\$12 at the door; \$20 for admission plus a drag meet-and-greet. 755 Prior Ave. N., St. Paul; 651-925-2261. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

### FILM

#### PHIL-FOR-SHORT

TRYLON CINEMA

As the movie industry has come under increased scrutiny for the dearth of substantive roles for actresses, appreciation has been shown to those early filmmakers who dared to depict women as more than mere foils for leading men. Three such works will take the weekend spotlight at the Trylon Cinema, screened on rare 35mm prints courtesy of the Library of Congress. Accompanied by the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20 ►

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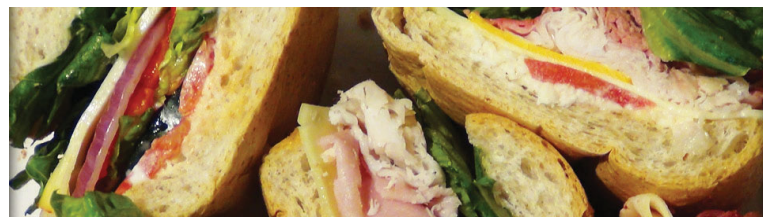
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ELECTRIC FETUS PRESENTS  
**TRANSMISSION: THE '80S**  
A NIGHT OF POP/ROCK/  
NEW WAVE/HIP-HOP/R&B  
FT. DJ JAKE RUDH

APR **03**  
**PHILLIP PHILLIPS:**  
THE MAGNETIC TOUR  
WITH THE BALLROOM THIEVES

APR **05**  
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS  
**MARGARET GLASPY**  
WITH BUCK MECK

APR **07**  
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS  
**TY SEGALL**

APR **08**  
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS  
**BUILT TO SPILL**  
WITH RITUALS OF MINE,  
BLACK BELT EAGLE SCOUT

APR **11**  
**THE WOOD**  
**BROTHERS**  
WITH NICKI BLUHM

APR **14**  
**MARGO PRICE**  
NOWHERE FAST TOUR  
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APR **20** **SKIZZY MARS**

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W/ BEDOUINE

APR **24** **RAINBOW KITTEN SURPRISE**  
THE FRIEND, LOVE, FREEFALL TOUR  
W/ CAAMP

APR **30** **GEORGE EZRA**

MAY **04** **UNKNOWN MORTAL**  
**ORCHESTRA**  
W/ MAKENESS

## UP NEXT 7TH ST ENTRY

WHOSAH, SHINY PENNY,  
AND YAM HAUS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

PALM  
W/ THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE,  
SCRUNCHIES  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

THE MOWGLI'S  
REAL GOOD LIFE TOUR 2018  
W/ MAINLAND  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

PORCHES  
W/ GIRL RAY, CHEAP FANTASY  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

SILVERBACK TRIO,  
OKnice, AND EXCESSIVE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

A MEMORY, A MONOLOGUE,  
A RANT AND A PRAYER:  
WRITINGS TO STOP VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

TY DAVIS  
'Arteries' RELEASE SHOW  
W/ APLiFt, SOLO DAVIS, AND MORE  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

AUTOGRAF  
W/ RAMZOID, EDAMAME  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

## UP NEXT TURF CLUB

SHOSHONE GEORGE,  
JOE KOPEL,  
AND DANGERBAD  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

ROCK HOP FT. deM atlas  
AND THOMAS ABBAN  
W/ AYAHA, SEABERG  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ZEPPU  
W/ ELnO, DJ TIME MACHINE  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

THE WIND + THE WAVE  
W/ JESSE RUBEN, RACHEL PRICE,  
HALEY JOHNSON  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

THE SHEEPDOGS  
W/ SAM COFFEY & THE IRON LUNGS  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

J BOOG  
W/ JESSE ROYAL, ETANA  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

MARGOT  
W/ CEDAR, JUNIOR VARSITY,  
ALMIGHTY AMERICAN  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

NIGHTMARES ON WAX  
'SHAPE THE FUTURE' LIVE TOUR 2018  
W/ AARON RICE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 1

SUNNY SWEENEY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 2

JORDAN RAKEI  
SATURDAY, MARCH 3

JULIAN MANZARA BAND  
AND ILLUSION VALLEY  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

THEO KATZMAN AND  
CORY WONG  
W/ BRIDGET KEARNEY (LAKE STREET DIVE)  
THURSDAY, MARCH 8

## UP NEXT PALACE THEATRE

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FEB **22** **GALACTIC WITH LETTUCE**  
BEYOND THE CLOUDS TOUR

FEB **23** **JUDAH & THE LION**  
GOING TO MARS TOUR  
W/ COLONY HOUSE, TALL HEIGHTS

FEB **24** **WALK THE MOON**  
W/ COMPANY OF THIEVES

MAR **02** **MIGUEL**  
W/ SIR, NONCHALANT SAVANT

MAR **17** **AN EVENING WITH**  
**GLEN HANSARD**

APR **03** **DAN AUERBACH AND THE EASY EYE**  
SOUND REVUE FT. ROBERT FINLEY,  
SHANNON SHAW  
W/ SHANNON AND THE CLAMS

APR **06+07** **THE DECEMBERISTS**

APR **22** **LORD HURON**

MAY **06** **DR. DOG**  
CRITICAL EQUATION TOUR  
W/ SON LITTLE

## UP NEXT OTHER VENUES

COIN  
THE NORTH AMERICAN  
TOUR 2018  
W/ THE ACES  
FINE LINE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

WHY?  
W/ FLORIST  
THE CEDAR  
FRIDAY, MARCH 2

KYLE KINANE  
W/ SEAN JORDAN  
THE CEDAR  
TUESDAY, MARCH 6  
SECOND SHOW ADDED (18+)

THE NOSLEEP PODCAST  
W/ CREEPY PODCAST  
THE CEDAR  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

BAHAMAS  
W/ THE WEATHER STATION  
FINE LINE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 8

RHYE  
W/ BOULEVARDS  
FINE LINE  
FRIDAY, MARCH 9

ANDREA GIBSON  
W/ CHASTITY BROWN  
THE CEDAR  
SATURDAY, MARCH 10

AN EVENING WITH  
NADA SURF  
CELEBRATING THE 15TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF 'LET GO'  
FINE LINE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

COLTER WALL  
W/ THE LOCAL HONEYS  
FINE LINE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 27

DAVID HUCKFELT  
(OF THE PINES)  
W/ ANNIE HUMPHREY  
ICEHOUSE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 29

OF MONTREAL  
W/ MEGA BOG  
THE CEDAR  
TUESDAY, APRIL 3

S. CAREY  
W/ GORDI  
THE CEDAR  
SATURDAY, APRIL 7

BATHS  
W/ NO JOY, SASAMI ASHWORTH  
FINE LINE  
SATURDAY, APRIL 7

TAUK  
SHAPESHIFTER TOUR  
W/ PHO  
FINE LINE  
THURSDAY, APRIL 12



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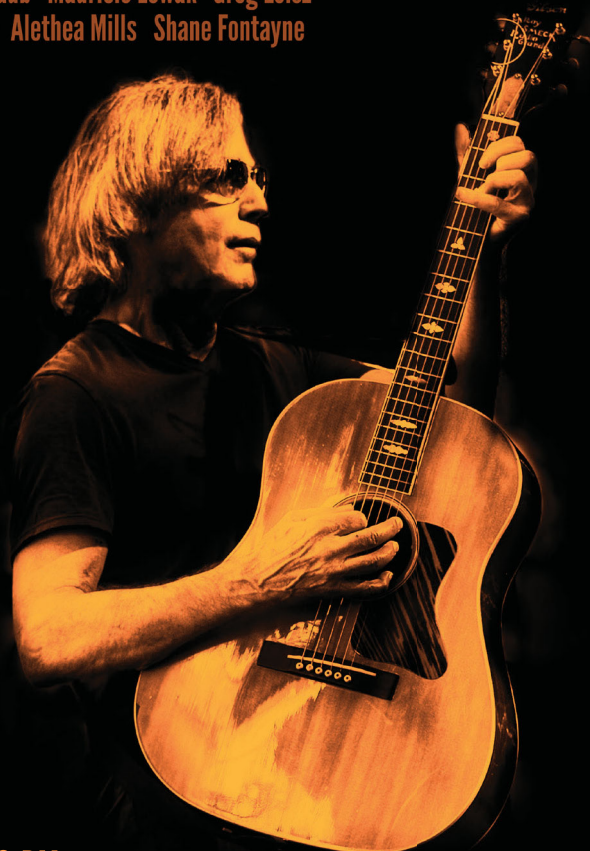


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## A-LIST

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AARON DAVIDSON

### CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

music of Dreamland Faces, these silent classics present female figures in ways far removed from shrinking-violet stereotypes. The five-minute short *Princess Nicotine; or, The Smoke Fairy* (1909) is an oddity, employing an array of trick photography to depict the fever dream of a smoker bedeviled by mischievous sprites. A fantasy of another sort is offered by *Her First Flame* (1920) when a newly elected female fire chief (inhabiting a subverted world where women do the outside labor and men are expected to be homemakers) must battle a raging blaze to rescue her imperiled sweetheart. Lastly, feature film *Phil-For-Short* follows orphaned tomboy Damophilia (or Phil) Illington as she flees from a lecherous suitor, disguises herself as a man, and sets out to win the heart of an embittered professor. These films remain pioneering examples of the creative vivacity that arises when diverse representation is embraced as a standard of storytelling. 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 5 and 7:15 p.m. Sunday. \$12. 3258 Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis; 612-424-5468.

**Through Sunday —BRAD RICHASON**

### SATURDAY 2.24

#### BEER

## BEER DABBLER WINTER CARNIVAL 2018

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

Now in its ninth year, the Beer Dabbler brings thousands of revelers to the Minnesota State Fairgrounds to sample a plethora of brews. At the event, the biggest outdoor fest of its kind in Minnesota, there will be over 160

breweries and more than 500 different beers to try. They will include exciting beers from local companies like Bent Paddle, Surly, and Barrel Theory, as well as efforts from out-of-state makers such as WarPigs, Pipeworks, and the Brewing Projekt. Live music will be provided by St. Paul rapper Dem Atlas, and there's also a silent disco and a meat-and-cheese tasting planned. Expect a smorgasbord of food, drink, and entertainment amid snow, sleet, and maybe even a little sunshine. Tickets and more info can be found at [beerdabbler.com](http://beerdabbler.com). 21+. 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$45-\$55; \$90 VIP; \$20 designated driver. 1265 Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. —LOREN GREEN

#### THEATER

## SOLO EMERGING ARTIST CELEBRATION

GUTHRIE THEATER

From the ninth floor of the Guthrie Theater, home of the intimate black-box Dowling Studio stage, visitors can obtain a striking perspective of the Twin Cities. An even more insightful view, however, will be offered from within the Dowling Studio during the inaugural Solo Emerging Artist Celebration. Underscoring the venue's commitment to producing culturally inclusive works, the event will showcase three singular artists performing original pieces under a rotating repertory schedule. Informed by a heartfelt sensibility forged as a female Muslim refugee of Somali descent, Ifrah Mansour will perform her much lauded piece *How to Have Fun in a Civil War*, a multi-sensory presentation that recalls her memories as a seven-year-old living amid



**BARHOPPING**  
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EVENT ORGANIZERS

This Saturday, Norseman Distillery will celebrate the second anniversary of their cocktail room, where they'll be slinging their Minneapolis-made concoctions all night. Try the refreshing Lucky Dragon (hibiscus tea, pineapple-chipotle gin, lime), the healing Penicillin (ginger, lemon, honey, harvest whiskey), or the really weird-sounding Rituell (aquavit, brown butter). There are usually a few really tasty non-alcoholic drinks on the menu as well. Edibles include meat and cheese plates, fried-chicken tacos, and deviled eggs. In an attempt to escape the dreary late-February doldrums, 1970s/Hawaiian-style threads are encouraged. Winter evenings in Minnesota are long, so make the most of it by celebrating with local cocktails in Norseman's industrial space, which is a nighttime treasure. There will also be giveaways and other customer rewards throughout the party. 5 p.m. to midnight. Free. 451 Taft St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-643-1933. —LOREN GREEN

violence. Lending his own experiences as a black American, prolific actor Antonio Duke will channel the all-too-often unheard voices of the African-American community, bringing forth observations that challenge historic and contemporary social bias. Similarly, performance artist A.P. Looze will delve into the humanity inherent to issues of transgender identity, reflecting on the bigotry of stringently defined notions of normality, whether expressed as political policy or from within one's own family. Showtimes vary, check online. \$9. 818 S. Second

St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224.  
 Through March 11 —BRAD RICHASON

TUESDAY 2.27

**BOOKS**

**PATRICK NATHAN**

BLACK DOG CAFÉ

Author Patrick Nathan turns the adolescent mind inside out in his debut novel, *Some Hell*. The story starts with what appears to be the suicide of a father in suburban Minnesota. His teen son, Cole, struggles with his role in his father's death while simultaneously coming to grips with the realization that he's gay. A predatory teacher, rejection from his best friend, depression, and shame create a toxic cocktail that cloud Cole's worldview. With the help of his estranged grandfather, he inches toward self-acceptance. The rest of the family doesn't cope so well. Cole's siblings scatter, and contact among them is sparse. Cole's mother, Diane, enters therapy, but spends her sessions entertaining impure thoughts about her shrink. Ultimately, the death and its aftermath force Cole and Diane to confront emotions that they couldn't—or wouldn't—acknowledge before. *Some Hell* has already garnered buzz for its edgy honesty, including several starred reviews and mentions on "most anticipated" lists in Esquire and Bustle. Nathan launches the book, out from Graywolf Press, with fellow novelist Kaethe Schwehn on Tuesday night at Black Dog Café. 6 p.m. Free. 308 E. Prince St., St. Paul; 612-387-8803. —ERICA RIVERA

**DANCE**

**LES BALLETS DE MONTE-CARLO**

NORTHROP

Looking for a way to get your romance on? Or ignite some smoldering embers of love? There's perhaps no greater romance than the star-crossed love of *Romeo and Juliet*. Now set it to the choreography of classical ballet. Sure, Shakespeare's tale of young passion, generational familial warfare, selfless helpmeets, and fake deaths gone awry has plenty of drama. And, of course, everyone dies in the end. But French choreographer Jean-Christophe Maillot's two-act version, with 50 dancers filling the stage, promises plenty of filmy tulle, wispy choreography, heart-rending emotion, and pulse-pounding action set to Prokofiev's iconic score. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. \$32-\$74. 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis; 612-624-2345. Through Wednesday, February 28 —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

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# BLACK SUPERPOWER

*Black Panther* is a nuanced and brilliant addition to the Marvel universe



*Black Panther* is part superhero movie, part spy flick, and part sci-fi spectacle.

COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY PICTURES

BY TONY LIBERA

**B**lack Panther might be the most complex Marvel feature to date. It's a superhero movie, a spy flick, and a sci-fi spectacle that explores issues of colonialism, isolationism, and feminine strength. That's a lot of ground to cover for a big-budget action blockbuster. Yet *Black Panther* not only works on a functional level, it distinguishes itself in a sea of comic-book adaptations, different and powerful where others have begun to feel like more of the same.

Picking up shortly after *Captain America: Civil War*, the film begins with T'Challa a.k.a. Black Panther (Chadwick Boseman) returning to Wakanda—secret high-tech African country—to ascend the throne. After defeating a challenger from the mountainous Jabari tribe, King T'Challa gets word that longtime Wakandan enemy Ulysses Klaue (Andy Serkis) is heading to South Korea to sell a stolen Vibranium artifact. Here *Black Panther* dips into James Bond stylings, complete with a casino showdown, a Q analog in the form of T'Challa's sister Shuri (Letitia Wright), and a death-defying car chase through the streets of Busan.

Soon T'Challa encounters the film's main antagonist, Erik "Killmonger" Stevens

(Michael B. Jordan), an American black ops murder machine with a grudge. This is where things start to get complicated.

Killmonger's chief motivation is revenge; however, coming of age fatherless in Oakland has also taught him firsthand the plight of oppressed people, and he wants to help those in need. Though his means are unquestionably villainous, Killmonger is sympathetic in the same way as Magneto from the X-Men franchise, and this (mostly) sets him apart in a Marvel Cinematic Universe where the bad guys almost exclusively seek omnipotence.

This updated backstory, lined up beside Wakanda's isolationist policies, gives director Ryan Coogler a huge soapbox to unpack contemporary American issues. Comic books have dealt with social topics to some degree for decades, but Marvel's transition to the silver screen has so far left a lot of that on the page. As Taika Waititi's comedic sensibilities turned *Thor: Ragnarok* into an unexpected success, Coogler's ability to objectively dissect both nuanced figures and racial politics—a skill that made *Fruitvale Station* such an impressive debut—brings the underlying spirit of the comics to the forefront. Hiring a 30-year-old director with only two feature films to his name was a bold move by Marvel, and it paid off.

## BLACK PANTHER

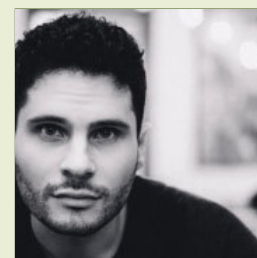
directed by Ryan Coogler  
area theaters, now showing

Of course, a phenomenal cast is also necessary for those concepts to carry any weight in a costumed hero narrative, and one look at the jam-packed *Black Panther* poster shows you're getting just that.

With T'Challa, Boseman provides a solid foundation at the heart of the movie, and things only improve from there. It's no surprise that Michael B. Jordan is again incredible, and Andy Serkis almost steals the show in a rare live-action performance. But *Black Panther* also puts emphasis on strong women: Wright effectively balances her role as a brilliant scientist by also pulling the most laughs, while Lupita Nyong'o and Danai Gurira both play members of the Dora Milaje—an elite, all-female special forces squad—with equal badassery. Add Angela Bassett, Forest Whitaker, Daniel Kaluuya, Sterling K. Brown, and Martin Freeman for kicks and there's an unfair amount of talent in this movie.

Put it all together and *Black Panther* is one of Marvel's best. It's a superhero movie with substance, and we can all get behind that. **C**

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MAR. 23..... BELLAMY BROTHERS  
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# TWO MILE HOLLOW

The white narrative is flipped at a WASPy beach house



RICH RYAN

BY JAY GABLER

**P**rivilege is insidious, even when it's ostensibly being questioned. Neil LaBute writes a play about misogyny, and who gets the plum roles? Men. Ryan Coogler makes a movie about Apollo Creed's son, and who gets the Oscar nomination? Rocky.

*Two Mile Hollow* flips the script on this dynamic by satirizing the dominance of white narratives with a cast comprising exclusively Asian Americans, four of whom play wealthy white characters. Leah Nanako Winkler's extraordinary new script is given a superb production by Theater Mu and Mixed Blood Theatre, under the direction of Randy Reyes.

At first, the show seems anything but subtle. It centers on a family blessed with fortune and fame, and who of course are perpetually anxious about losing any trace of it. Blythe (Sun Mee Chomet) is selling the East Hampton beach house she shared with her late husband, a movie star. Blythe's daughter Mary (Kathryn Fumie) has come for one last visit, along with her stepsons Joshua (Sherwin Resurreccion) and Christopher (Eric Sharp), the latter a film star in his own right.

They're extravagantly offensive. Blythe is full of scorn for "Orientals," and the grown children have already forgotten about the Argentinian nanny who raised them. They suspect Christopher's Asian-American personal assistant Charlotte (Meghan Kreidler) may be "flippin'-yo."

The actors bite so heartily into the roles, and Winkler creates such sharply funny

## TWO MILE HOLLOW

Mixed Blood Theatre  
1501 S. Fourth St., Minneapolis  
612-338-6131; through March 4

lines for them, that the play works even on the modest terms it initially sets for itself, as a mockery of the easily mocked. As the show unfolds, though, it becomes clear that Winkler isn't just going after wealthy WASPs: She's illuminating how so much of the Western canon is hostage to their travails.

These characters have problems, sure, and they're the same problems—infidelity, depression, jealousy, addiction—we've been taught are the stuff of Great Drama, at least when experienced by white people. Other narratives, like Charlotte's, get marginalized.

As the story spirals upward toward an increasingly meta-dramatic commentary, we go along for the ride with a cast who glory in these substantive and hilarious roles. Resurreccion is so committed to his insecure and sheltered character that he even pulls off a potentially corny running gag regarding Joshua's wobbly Mid-Atlantic accent.

One of the most amusing scenes involves a confrontation between the two brothers in a well-manicured garden; if there's justice, *Two Mile Hollow* will lead to the first Ivey awarded for a performance delivered by an actor with landscape gravel stuffed down his pants.

It's all spectacularly silly, while also being deadly serious about the question of who gets to create art, and to have it seen. **C**

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*Written by: Keona Tranby*



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# STREET *Style*

**LOOKS TO LOVE** RAW Minneapolis presents Envision on February 14. **BY AMY GEE**



## PATTY CLARK

25, OPERATIONS MANAGER

### What are you wearing?

Moto jacket and shoes from Nordstrom, Zara pants.

### Describe your style:

Business professional meets hipster, black with pops of color.

### Who's your current style crush?

For work, Rachel Zoe and Marc Jacobs. Outside of work, any drag queen.

### One thing in your closet you can't live without?

My Bob Mackie satin shirt dress. It's a wearable art piece.



## PACHIA VANG

23, FASHION MERCHANDISING MANAGER, FASHION BLOGGER

### What are you wearing?

Champion T-shirt from PacSun, jacket from Saks Fifth Avenue, Michael Kors bag, thrifted jeans, Aldo shoes, beret from Amazon.

### Describe your style:

Versatile, bold, streetwear, contemporary fashion.

### Who's your current style crush?

CL from 2NE1 and Rihanna.

### One thing in your closet you can't live without?

My T-shirts.



## SHEENA MULLINS

28, HOME HEALTHCARE

### What are you wearing?

Everything is from Forever 21.

### Describe your style:

Edgy, hip, different, creative, stylish, unique, awesome, classy.

### Who's your current style crush?

Rihanna.

### One thing in your closet you can't live without?

A jean jacket.



## CHRISTINA SIMON

25, BARISTA, ILLUSTRATOR

### What are you wearing?

Forever 21 jacket, skirt from Amazon, Sheln top and socks, Dr. Martens boots, bag from Rewind.

### Describe your style:

A cosmic magical girl and lots of colors.

### Who's your current style crush?

Grimes and Sailor Moon.

### One thing in your closet you can't live without?

A neon pink sweater from the kids' department at Rewind.



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**2.24 THE RETURN OF**  
**DJ KINGORILLA**

**3.2 ALEX ROSSI**

**3.3 DEUCES UP**  
 DANCE PARTY

**3.13 THE DOLLYROTS**  
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**3.17 JUNKYARD**  
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**3.24 SUPERSUCKERS.**  
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 Triston Pettis  
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The Missing Letters, Rich Mattson,  
 Brian Herb, Havana Sleeve  
 • 9PM DOORS • 10PM MUSIC • \$8 •

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The Dames, Fury Things, Kill to Kill  
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Fat Tuesdays Party III  
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 lizzie jean and the downbound

fri : february 23

7pm : laura and sean's  
 movie and music trivia

10pm : carrie schneider  
 (album release)  
 stripes on stripes

sat : february 24

7pm : trivia mafia presents  
 331 drinkin' spelling bee  
 10pm : the fontanelles  
 emily haavik, jacob mahon

sun : february 25

3-5pm : no fun sunday presents  
 ben weaver

8pm : trivia mafia

mon : february 26

8pm : the roe family singers  
 10pm : doug otto and friends

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 2/23

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 Dang Ol' Tri'ole

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2/28 - THE BEAVERS - 7pm #FreeMusicWednesdays  
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 3/03 - THE BELFAST COWBOYS  
 3/07 - SIAMA MATUZUNGIDI - 7pm #FreeMusicWednesdays  
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SAT  
 3/10

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# DEEPER AND DEEPER

Meet Angelica Ottavia, the versatile Minneapolis DJ who fits in just about everywhere



Angelica Ottavia

BETHANY BIRNIE

BY MICHAELANGELO MATOS

It's the middle of January, and at Muddy Waters, hope springs eternal.

"The Vikings in the Super Bowl? It could actually happen," says Minneapolis DJ Angelica Ottavia. "Everybody's really angry about it—stores closing—and I totally get that. But I've always been able to be sucked into an occasional football game, and then I started just watching it. My boyfriend's never been into football, ever, and he's started to watch it. It's over the top. But I like things like that."

If it's hard to imagine Ottavia ever DJing a Super Bowl party—at least, one not of her own—it's hard to bet against her doing something like it. Over the past few years she's become one of the most visible and adaptable DJs on the local circuit. A regular at the monthly Dark Energy party at the Kitty Cat Klub, Ottavia has become a notably diverse DJ, equally adept at specialty sets of techno, Goth, industrial, house, and experimental music as an opener or closer, and just as good at commingling those styles.

And at Deeper, which takes place the last Thursday of every month at the Loring Bar's Red Room, Ottavia plays more aggressively outré, oftentimes beat-less records. (That makes a certain amount of logistical sense as well—the Red Room's carpet isn't exactly conducive to dancing.)

Ottavia, who turns 30 in April, is a Los Angeles native who moved to Minneapolis in 2006 for school. "I grew up in Redondo Beach and Palm Springs," she says. "I wanted to be in a city, and I also went to a small, private high school, and I wanted to be at the biggest public school I could find. My mom grew up in Minnesota, so I have some family here. I visited, and was just like, 'This is what I want.' I'd grown up listening to punk—Green Day and Blink-182 were the first things I downloaded on my own—and had a lot of friends who played in bands. And then I came here and it was just nothing like what was going on in L.A. Minneapolis definitely has a punk scene, but it's more of a classic punk scene."

At the U, where she majored in physiology, Ottavia played Variety Hour slots on Radio

K and co-hosted a short-lived show there playing "psychedelic, experimental, old industrial music, and a lot of Krautrock." She also bought her first decent guitar and amplifier. "Now I live in an apartment and have no place to play my really fucking loud tube amp," she says, with a little frustration.

"I fell into it," she says of her more recent music career. "I'd never thought of becoming a DJ. I got into techno before I knew there was a scene in Minneapolis for it, or knew anyone else [who] was listening to it. I got into techno at the very end of 2011. I was introduced to Sandwell District and I'd never heard anything that sounded anything like that—minimal and maximal at the same time. That stuff had a huge, huge impact on me. Before that, I thought of minimal techno or, like, Vengaboys, and no in-between. I think that's how a lot of people still think about it."

Then, in 2014, a friend was moving out of her house. "It was in the process of being foreclosed on," says Ottavia. "She had a PA, and planned this big house party. I was like, 'Oh, I'll pull together a DJ set for your party. Who cares?' I picked out a bunch of music, I practiced, I had a mini-controller and a laptop, and I brought over basically my boom-box speaker setup—a bunch of tea lights, so I had some mood lighting going. I played in this big bedroom. I wasn't expecting much out of it or anything to come of it, and people came up to me after that like, 'Where the fuck did you come from?'"

Her first booking was at Too Much Love at First Avenue. "It was weird to play in the Mainroom—I really wasn't ready for that," she says. "It freaked me out. I'm kind of hard on myself. I didn't feel great about it. But they were super encouraging, and I got asked back. I didn't have anybody to learn from, and I had to teach myself—I really didn't know what I was doing. What I was into at that time, what I was playing, was really heavy. When I started, I was just playing techno. I quickly started mixing industrial in: I never didn't play really dark."

She's not kidding about being self-critical. When I contacted Ottavia about doing this interview, I asked if she had a Mixcloud or SoundCloud page up. "I don't, because I'm an over-the-top perfectionist," she replied. Now, she says, "I have a SoundCloud page that has some mixes up all set to private." She's also got a set in the works for Kajunga, the Minneapolis house label with a locally focused DJ podcast series. She also noted, "I really play a lot of different types of music, and a lot of different types of shows. The lines would be blurred." (But she is proud to

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## MUSIC

say that she never played Clubhouse Jäger.) Those blurred lines don't seem to matter much locally, and not just with Ottavia. In 2017, Minneapolis-St. Paul was home to a wide and deep array of superb DJ parties, in large clubs and clandestine locations alike. It's still a homey scene—a lot of the people making these moves have been around for decades—but it feels invigorated, both for DJs and live electronics, even as the parties, more than any individuals, tend to be the stars. But Ottavia's presence is particularly notable, partly because she can and does play damn near everywhere, partly because she's played a few flat-out brilliant sets, such as a flawless two-hour headlining techno slot at Black Mass last November.

Another Ottavia gem took place on New Year's Eve of 2016, in the basement of a since-finished Phillips party house. "I had a blast," she recalls. "That was what I was in the mood to play that night. I went all across the board, and it wound up working out really well. That night it was really a bit of everything: I know I played a Sandwell track, which I don't usually do at Dark Energy things. I played a Skinny Puppy track with a totally different BPM—and a lot of random, sort of discoey dance-music stuff. I played Yazoo's 'Situation.' I was so pumped—like, 'Yes!' That was the last time I played it—maybe I should bust that one out again."

Here's a readymade metaphor for where the year took both local dance music and Ottavia in particular: New Year's Eve went from a basement to a mansion—Dearing Mansion in St. Paul, where Dark Energy put on a catered multi-floor bacchanal that went till daybreak. "We didn't start down there till two," she says. "I played for about 45 minutes, an hour. It was really fun. It was mostly tracks I hadn't played yet." Into the New Year, and into the new. **EP**

## CRITICS' PICKS

### DECIBEL MAGAZINE TOUR

CABOOZE, SATURDAY 2.24

The mighty Enslaved are among the most prolific of all the heavyweights in the Norwegian black-metal tradition. Having long since mastered speed and mood, they continue to challenge themselves, most recently with 2017's *E*, which balances their black metal with prog- and post-metal complexity (and clean vocals by new keyboardist Hakon Vinje). With brotherly black-metallers Wolves in the Throne Room, one-woman black-metal project Myrkur, and Denver doom-bringers Khemmish. 18+. 7 p.m. \$25. 917 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425.

—MICHAEL MADDEN

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Feb. 24..... **Vibronauts** 9pm - 12am

Feb. 25..... **Doug Otto & Friends** 5 - 8pm

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# Bye Biphobia

I'm bisexual. My boyfriend is bisexual.  
So why am I biphobic?

**I**'m an 18-year-old female. I'm cisgender and bisexual. I've been in a monogamous relationship with my cisgender bisexual boyfriend for about a year. I'm currently struggling with a lot of internalized biphobia and other hang-ups about my boyfriend's sexuality. I feel truly awful about it, but when I think about the fact that he's bi and is attracted to men, I become jealous and fearful that he will leave me for a man. I know it is unfair of me to feel this way and he's never given me any real reason to fear this. We have a very engaged, kinky, and rewarding sex life!

This situation is complicated by the near certainty that my boyfriend has some sort of hormonal disorder. He has a very young face for an 18-year-old, a feminine figure, and not a lot of body hair. He orgasms but he does not ejaculate; and although he has a sizable penis, his testicles are more like the size of grapes than eggs. He struggles a lot with feeling abnormal and un-masculine. I try to be as supportive as possible and tell him how attracted to him I am and how he'll get through whatever this is. But I worry that he would feel more comfortable or "normal" with a man.

I don't want to contribute to him feeling bad about himself. How do I stop worrying that he's gay or would be happier with a man? I feel horrible about myself for these anxieties considering that I'm bi too, and should know better.

ANONYMOUS NERVOUS GIRLFRIEND  
SEEKS TRANQUILITY

"Many people who encounter us Bi+ folk in the wild just project their insecurities onto us with impunity and then blame us for it," said RJ Aguiar, a bisexual activist and content creator. "As someone who's bi herself, I'm sure ANGST knows this all too well."

So if you've been on the receiving end of biphobia, why are you doing it to your bisexual boyfriend?

"This hypothetical they're-going-to-leave-me-for-someone-hotter scenario could happen to anyone of any orientation," said Aguiar. "But maybe because the

potential 'pool of applicants' is over twice as big for us Bi+ folk, we get stuck with twice as much of this irrational fear? The key is to understand that feelings aren't always rational. But if we can share those feelings with the person we love without fear of judgment or reprisal, it can help create a space of comfort and intimacy."

As for the reasons you're feeling insecure—your boyfriend might be gay and/or happier with a man—I'm not going to

lie to you, ANGST. Your boyfriend could be gay, and/or he could one day realize that he'd be happier with a man (just as you could one day realize that you'd be happier with a woman). But your sex life—your engaging, kinky, rewarding sex life—is pretty good evidence that your boyfriend isn't gay. Besides, very few people wind up spending their lives with the person they were dat-

ing at 18. Stop worrying about forever and enjoy this time and this boy and this relationship for however long it lasts.

Finally, in case your boyfriend hasn't spoken to a doctor about his symptoms, I shared your letter with Dr. John Amory, professor of medicine at the University of Washington. It could simply be delayed puberty—some people suddenly grow six inches when they get to college—or it could be something called Klinefelter syndrome.

"Klinefelter syndrome occurs in one out of every 500 males and is associated with small testicular volume and decreased testosterone," said Dr. Amory. "Small testes at age 18 means it's time for a doctor's visit—probably an endocrinologist or urologist—to consider measurement of testosterone and some other hormones. This should help him understand if he 'just needs to wait' or if he has a diagnosis that could be treated. There is a real possibility that he has KS, which is usually treated with testosterone to improve muscle mass, bone density, and sexual function."

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## FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

>> By Rob Brezsny

**♈ ARIES** (March 21-April 19): When you're playing poker, a wild card refers to a card that can be used as any card the cardholder wants it to be. If the two of hearts is deemed wild before the game begins, it can be used as an ace of diamonds, jack of clubs, queen of spades, or anything else. That's always a good thing! In the game of life, a wild card is the arrival of an unforeseen element that affects the flow of events unpredictably. It might derail your plans, or alter them in ways that are at first inconvenient but ultimately beneficial. It may even cause them to succeed in an even more interesting fashion than you imagined they could. I bring this up, Aries, because I suspect that you'll be in the Wild Card Season during the next four weeks. Any and all of the above definitions may apply. Be alert for unusual luck.

**♉ TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): If you gorge on 10 pounds of chocolate in the next 24 hours, you will get sick. Please don't do that. Limit your intake to no more than a pound. Follow a similar policy with any other pleasurable activity. Feel emboldened to surpass your normal dosage, yes, but avoid ridiculous overindulgence. Now is one of the rare times when visionary artist William Blake's maxim is applicable: "The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom." So is his corollary, "You never know what is enough until you know what is more than enough." But keep in mind that Blake didn't say, "The road of foolish, reckless exorbitance leads to the palace of wisdom."

**♊ GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Have you ever had a rousing insight about an action that would improve your life, but then you failed to summon the willpower to actually take that action? Have you resolved to embark on some new behavior that would be good for you, but then found yourself unable to carry it out? Most of us have experienced these frustrations. The ancient Greeks had a word for it: *akrasia*. I bring it up, Gemini, because I suspect you may be less susceptible to *akrasia* in the next four weeks than you have ever been. I bet you will consistently have the courage and command to actually follow through on what your intuition tells you is in your best interests.

**♋ CANCER** (June 21-July 22): "There is no such thing as a failed experiment," said inventor Buckminster Fuller, "only experiments with unexpected outcomes." That's an excellent guideline for you to keep in mind during the coming weeks. You're entering a phase of your astrological cycle when questions are more important than answers, when explorations are more essential than discoveries, and when curiosity is more useful than knowledge. There will be minimal value in formulating a definitive concept of success and then trying to achieve it. You will have more fun and you will learn more by continually redefining success as you wander and ramble.

**♌ LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): During World War II, British code-breakers regularly intercepted and deciphered top-secret radio messages that high-ranking German soldiers sent to each other. Historians have concluded that these heroes shortened the war by at least two years. I bring this to your attention, Leo, in the hope that it will inspire you. I believe your own metaphorical code-breaking skills will be acute in the coming weeks. You'll be able to decrypt messages that have different meanings from what they appear to mean. You won't get fooled by deception and misdirection. This knack will enable you to home in on the elusive truths that are circulating—thus saving you from unnecessary and irrelevant turmoil.

**♍ VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In April 1972, three American astronauts climbed into a spacecraft and took a trip to the moon and back. On the second day of the 11-day jaunt, pilot Ken Mattingly removed and misplaced his wedding ring. In the zero-gravity conditions, it drifted off and disappeared somewhere in the cabin. Nine days later, on the way home, Mattingly and Charlie Duke did a space walk. When they opened the hatch and slipped outside, they found the wedding ring floating in the blackness of space. Duke was able to grab it and bring it in. I suspect that in the coming weeks, you will recover a lost or missing item in an equally unlikely location, Virgo. Or perhaps your retrieval will be of a more metaphorical kind: a dream, a friendship, an opportunity.

**♎ LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): According to British philosopher Alain de Botton, "Maturity begins with the capacity to sense and, in good time and without defensiveness, admit to our own craziness." He says that our humble willingness to be embarrassed by our confusion and mistakes and doubts is key to understanding ourselves. I believe these meditations will be especially useful for you in the coming weeks, Libra. They could lead you to learn and make use of robust new secrets of self-mastery.

**♏ SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): During the next four weeks, there are three activities I suspect you should indulge in at an elevated rate: laughter, dancing, and sex. The astrological omens suggest that these pursuits will bring you even more health benefits than usual. They will not only give your body, mind, and soul the precise exercise they need most; they will also make you smarter and kinder and wilder. Fortunately, the astrological omens also suggest that laughter, dancing, and sex will be even more easily available to you than they normally are.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The little voices in your head may have laryngitis, but they're still spouting their cracked advice. Here's another curiosity: You are extra-attuned to the feelings and thoughts of other people. I'm tempted to speculate that you're at least temporarily telepathic. There's a third factor contributing to the riot in your head: People you were close to earlier in your life are showing up to kibitz you in your nightly dreams. In response, I bid you to bark "Enough!" at all these meddlers. You have astrological permission to tell them to pipe down so you can hear yourself think.

**♑ CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Paleontologist Jack Horner says that developmental biologists are halfway toward being able to create a *chickenosaurus*—a creature that is genetically a blend of a chicken and a dinosaur. This project is conceivable because there's an evolutionary link between the ancient reptile and the modern bird. Now is a favorable time for you to contemplate metaphorically similar juxtapositions and combinations, Capricorn. For the foreseeable future, you'll have extra skill and savvy in the art of amalgamation.

**♒ AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Be stubborn about your goals but flexible about your methods." That's the message I saw on a woman's T-shirt today. It's the best possible advice for you to hear right now. To further drive home the point, I'll add a quote from productivity consultant David Allen: "Patience is the calm acceptance that things can happen in a different order than the one you have in mind." Are you willing to be loyal and true to your high standards, Aquarius, even as you improvise to uphold and fulfill them?

**♓ PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): In her novel *The Round House*, writer Louise Erdrich reminisces about how hard it was, earlier in her life, to yank out the trees whose roots had grown into the foundation of her family's house. "How funny, strange, that a thing can grow so powerful even when planted in the wrong place," she says. Then she adds, "Ideas, too." Your first assignment in the coming weeks, my dear Pisces, is to make sure that nothing gets planted in the wrong place. Your second assignment is to focus all your intelligence and love on locating the right places for new seeds to be planted.

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### Methamphetamine Treatment study

ADAPT is a new clinical research study seeking males and females to evaluate two medications for methamphetamine addiction. Contact the ADAPT team to see if you or someone you know is eligible for participation. 612-873-6927 or [adapt@bermancenter.org](mailto:adapt@bermancenter.org)

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